

Exhibit No. 6Date 1-31-07Bill No. SB 162

My name is Jack Casey and I am the Administrator of Shodair Children's Hospital here in Helena. I am here in support of SB 162. Should this Bill pass Shodair Hospital would bid through the RFP process to house the follow-up program within our Genetics Department. We would hire a Metabolic Geneticist from Denver and utilize her expertise in this program and in the various clinics we hold all across the State. We would hire a metabolic nutritionist to consult with families who have special dietary needs. A genetic counselor, nurse coordinator and one clerical staff would be brought on board to provide services and follow-up to those families and individuals who are identified with conditions that could receive benefit from the program. The staff would be available to consult with physicians and help educate the public all across Montana.

Maternal Child Health Bureau

Newborn Screening: Toward a Uniform Screening Panel and System > Report for Public Comment > Executive Summary

Cost-Effectiveness Analysis

Costs and benefits related to screening for particular conditions or groups of conditions were evaluated after mapping them over major disease outcomes (e.g., life expectancy, cerebral palsy/stroke, seizures, developmental delay, hearing loss, vision loss). Costs were obtained from the literature and benefits determined from expected outcomes with and without early treatment or intervention. The results of these analyses indicate that most newborn screening programs improve outcomes and reduce overall costs. Further, technologies

such as MS/MS or HPLC save money due to their multiplexing capabilities and low screening false-positive rates. The identification of potentially affected individuals at such an early time in life leads to many years over which the benefits accrue and aggregate over costs.

Study Reports Newborn Screening Tests Can Save Both Lives and Money (May 1 2006)

INDIANAPOLIS — In a new study, conducted for the federal government and published in a supplement to the May issue of the journal *Pediatrics*, Stephen M. Downs, M.D. and Aaron E. Carroll, M.D., of the Indiana University School of Medicine, recommend a national uniform panel of newborn screening tests which they found to be cost saving as well as life saving.

This was the first cost-effectiveness study to examine the prospect of incorporating broad testing using tandem mass spectrometry, a method that can test for several conditions at the same time, also called "multiplexing." The IU School of Medicine researchers focused on eight of the most commonly performed tests and analyzed them as a group. "Increasing the number of tests only made the overall results better because with tandem mass spectrometry you can test for more than fifty disorders simultaneously at very little additional cost," said Dr. Carroll, assistant professor of pediatrics.

The cost of newborn screening is borne by the public health sector -- tests using multiplexing technology cost between \$1.90 and \$25.00. Benefits of newborn screening are shared by families, insurance companies, healthcare providers and the state, which pays for a portion of Medicaid costs. Of the eight tests analyzed, six were not only cost effective, they were cost saving. Two were cost effective, although not cost saving.

Dr. Carroll added, "A newborn screening program is designed to benefit society as a whole, as well as individuals. Our study shows that it is one of the rare interventions that both improve health and save money."

Doing the newborn screening is only part of the equation for obtaining positive outcomes. The follow-up is crucial to obtaining positive outcomes.

During the last year I have visited several other States and reviewed their programs of both testing and follow-up. In Delaware, which has about the same number of births as Montana, they tell me that for every \$1 spent on newborn screening, \$9 in medical care and treatment costs are saved. This is a great return on investment for all the Montanans.

Thank you for the opportunity to speak with you.